REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 16, 19, 21-23, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 41 and 43 are pending in the present application. Claims 17, 24, 40 and 42 have been canceled and claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 16, 23, 28, 32 and 35 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claim 17 was objected to; claims 1-6, 9, 10, 16, 17, 19, 21-24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 251. and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; claims 32 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; claims 1, 2, 4 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Hirayama et al.; and claims 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 25 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hirayama et al. in view of Ohno.

Regarding the objection to claim 17, claim 17 has been canceled. Accordingly, this objection is moot.

Regarding the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. \S 251, the Office Action indicates features (1) – (4) are new matter (see item 11 in the Office Action for the features regarding this rejection).

However, regarding feature (1), it is respectfully noted the issued patent includes claims directed to an optical disc player (see claim 1 of the issued Patent No. 6,253,221). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted the recitation of an optical disc player does not add new matter. Regarding the feature (2), the Office Action indicates downloading from the optical disc and storing in a memory a first font data that such that it is separate from the characters of the selected language before the character generation unit generates the characters of the selected language is new matter. However, it is respectfully noted Fig. 4 of the present application illustrates includes the feature in which the first font data is downloaded from the optical disc and stored in a first memory. In addition, the following description is provided to provide further evidence that the font data is separate from the characters of the selected language before the generation unit generates the characters of the selected language.

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The character display apparatus according to an embodiment of the present application is for playing back a plurality of different movies, titles, etc. on a disc. For example, the apparatus can playback the movie "Superman" on one disc, and playback the movie "Batman" on a second separate disc. A third movie "X-men" can also be played on a third disc. Thus, if the font ROM 206 in Figure 2 was to include character subtitle data with a certain characteristic, the ROM 206 would have to include all subtitles for all movies that were going to be played on the apparatus. It would be impossible to know what movies were going to be played on the apparatus. That is, each user plays different movies, and a manufacturer of the apparatus could not manufacture a device including subtitles for all movies that may or may not be played on the apparatus. The font ROM 206 would have to be incredibly large to accommodate such number of subtitles for any number of movies to be played on the apparatus.

It is clear that the Font ROM 206 in Figure 2 is just that, a memory to store font data (e.g., type, size etc.) for a particular subtitle. The subtitle data is included on the disc 201 itself and it not initially stored in the memory 206. Rather, the font to be applied to the character data on the disc is only stored in the font ROM 206 (or the font RAM 205). In Figure 2, the controller 208 retrieves the character data separated by the data separation section 204 (see the arrow connecting the data separation unit 204 and the controller 208), and then the character generation unit takes the character data from the controller 208 and selectively applies a font from either the font RAM 205 or the font ROM 206. The character generation section then outputs the text.

If the font data and the character data were the same thing, there would be no need for the character generation section 207. Also, the font ROM 206 is a Read Only Memory (ROM) and thus it is clear the font data from the disc can not be written into the ROM 206. That is, the ROM 206 includes predetermined font data (e.g., default font data) that is included before the disc 201 is inserted. This is evidenced by the fact that the font ROM 206 is a Read Only Memory. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted the font data is different than the character data in the present application.

Further, regarding the feature (3), it is respectfully noted this feature has been amended to clarify that the first font data is separate from the second font data. Further, it is respectfully

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submitted the originally-filed specification supports "the second font data is separate from the first font data." For example, the first font data can be from the disc 201 shown in Figure 2 and the second font data can be from the ROM 206. Thus, the "the second font data is separate from the first font data."

In addition, regarding the feature (4), it is respectfully noted the feature in which the first and second font data are different than text data has been amended to recite that the first and second font data are different than character data of the specific presentation data. It is respectfully submitted the comments regarding feature (2) above also addresses this matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

Further, it is respectfully submitted the above comments also address the rejection of claims 1-6, 9, 10, 16, 17, 21-24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35 and 40-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 17, 24, 40 and 42 have also been canceled. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, regarding the rejection of claims 32 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, claims 32 and 35 have been amended to depend on the proper claim. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Hirayama et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 includes a combination of features and is directed to a character display apparatus for an optical disc player. The apparatus includes a detection and separation unit to detect if recorded data on an optical disc includes a first font data, and to separate said first font data from the detected recorded data if the first font data is recorded on the optical disc, a first memory area to store the first font data output from said detection and separation unit, a second memory area to store second font data that is separate from the first font data stored in the first memory area, a character generation unit to selectively generate character signals for characters of a selected language for a subtitle to have a font defined the first font data if the first font data is recorded on the optical disc and to have a font defined by the second font data if the first font data is not recorded on the optical disc, and a controller coupled to the character generation unit, to cause the character generation unit to selectively generate the

character signals for the characters of the selected language for character subtitle processing selected from multiple languages to be used in the character subtitle processing, the first and second font data are separate from the character signals of the selected language before the character generation unit generates the characters of the selected language. Independent claims 4 and 9 include similar features in a varying scope.

Figure 2 of the present application illustrates a character display apparatus according to an embodiment of the present application. As shown, the apparatus includes a pickup 202 to read data from an optical disc 201, a controller 208, a character generation section 207, a font RAM 205 and a font ROM 206. Also included are a high frequency processing section 203 and a data separation section 204.

The language data in Hirayama et al. is character data and not font data. That is, font is a specific size and style of type within a type family. The language information character data in Hirayama et al. does not correspond to the claimed font data of the present invention. Further, Hirayama et al. does not teach or suggest storing first font data in a first memory area and storing second font data that is separate than the first font data in a second memory area. The data in Hirayama et al. is always displayed with the same font. There is no selective process in Hirayama et al. about deciding what font is to be used with particular character data.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 4 and 9 and each claim depending therefrom are allowable.

Claims 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 25 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hirayama et al. in view of Ohno.

Independent claims 6, 7, 11, 16 and 23 include similar features as that discussed above with respect to the other independent claims. As discussed above, Hirayama et al. does not teach or suggest the selected process of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted Ohno also does not teach or suggest these features. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection also be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau, (Registration No. 42,325) at (703) 205-8072, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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